

Over The Garden Wall

White Rock & District Garden Club October, 2020

<https://www.white-rock-garden-club.ca/>

Mary Openshaw, President

Johanne Mramor, Secretary

Lorna Bury, Treasurer

President's Message

Flummoxed

We've been flummoxed yet again. No meetings at Cranley Hall for the foreseeable future. What was to be a combined meeting of Zoom and Cranley Hall will now be a Zoom meeting only, which will begin at 2 pm on Tuesday, October 13th.

Speaker

Our Programs Director, Margrit has arranged a guest speaker, Christine Allen who will be making a presentation on "Growing Great Roses". If you have any questions you would like to address with her, please forward them to Margrit at melmiger@telus.net. We will make sure your question is addressed.

Christine, a long-time volunteer at VanDusen Botanical Garden and a Master Gardener was president of the Vancouver Rose Society ('96-'98), president of South Surrey Garden Club ('05-'06), and a regular contributor to Garden Wise magazine. Her book, **'Roses for the Pacific Northwest'** may be purchased through ABE Books.

Zoom

An email reminder will be sent to all members prior to the meeting and will include the invitation to the Zoom meeting. (Make sure you download the Zoom app (only have to download it once). Just click on the invitation, make sure your sound is on and we'll see you then. The agenda will have the Speaker first, followed by questions and answers and then our regular Business Meeting.



I hope you will be able to figure out a way to come to the meeting, even if you don't personally have the technology.

There are members among us who are willing to have you sit in at their location to be part of the meeting. Masked and 6' distanced. Let's get you connected.

We've recently purchased a Zoom package that allows us to have a longer time frame for our meetings. (we were previously cut off after 40 minutes using the freebie). One of the benefits is that we will now be able to record, save and convert to a mp4 video that we can share.

Thankful

As Thanksgiving approaches, I'm thinking about things I'm thankful for this year and one is computer technology. It allows me to meet with my friends on line. I can FaceTime with my family even if I can't hug them. I try and focus on the positives like seeing the entries in the next Virtual Parlour Show, coming in November.

*Mary Openshaw,
President*

Fall Planting The Benefits

As it turns out, fall is not only one of the best times to move existing perennials it is also one of the best times of year to plant new plants in

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the garden, perhaps even better than spring. Here's why you should do some fall planting and renovating:



Big Plants: Plants purchased from our nursery in the fall have, for the most part, been growing for an entire season so they are big and full and ready to rumble! These same plants were just little babies in the spring. These big fall plants will establish very quickly in the garden owing to their size and to the favorable fall conditions.

Soil Temperatures: In spring, the soil warms up much more slowly than the air. Cold spring soils can shock plants and set them back by weeks. In the fall, the soil temperatures are warm and inviting for new plantings and their eager roots. Warm soil promotes fast, strong root growth allowing perennials to establish before winter.

Air Temperatures: The warm day times and cooler night times offer moderate temperatures that do not stress plants allowing them to quickly overcome transplant shock and establish.

Precipitation: The gradual increase in precipitation through September and October into November results in soils with good available moisture for root establishment.

Length of Time for Establishment: Planting in September and October still gives plants a long time to get settled in coastal BC before the first hard frosts come, usually in December. Even in colder areas of the country, many plants have enough time to establish well if planted in September.

Insects and Garden Pests: Humans aren't the only ones thinking about hibernating at this time of year. Insects such as aphids and other garden pests such as slugs are becoming less active and will soon die or go dormant for the season. Fall plantings reduce

the risk of damage to your plants by garden pests.

Getting a Jump Start: Most people become a bit overwhelmed in the spring with all the planting and garden chores. By planting in the fall you can shorten your spring "to do" list.

Better Displays in the First Full Season: Because perennials, shrubs, vines, and trees establish so well in the fall, your plantings and their subsequent foliage and floral displays will be almost a FULL YEAR ahead of any plantings you make next spring just by planting 6 months earlier. You'll have bigger, fuller more smashing gardens sooner.

Here are some suggestions for going about your garden renovation this fall:

1. Take a walk around your garden and look for an area or areas that most bug you. Make sure the area you choose is a manageable size so you can complete your renovation or new bed in a weekend or two.
2. Ask yourself what is and isn't working in that area — life is too short for plants that you don't love and for garden areas that are not beautiful. Dig out the plants that aren't working. If they are worth keeping, save them to plant in another area of the garden or give them to friends. With perennials, make sure to trim off a third to a half of the foliage to help minimize transplant shock. For shrubs whose shape you will not damage by trimming off some of the growth, dig up, trim and move. For shrubs and trees with architectural forms, wait until they are fully dormant to move them and remove only minimal foliage. Remember to add a generous amount of compost or Sea Soil mixed 50/50 with your existing garden soil when planting.
3. Now look at the plants that are working in this area. Are they in the right place? Perhaps a plant looks great in this area but is so happy that it's growing taller than what you expected. If you need to shift some plants in the bed, dig them out with as big of a root ball as possible and place them in a better location.
4. Now you're going to need some new

plants. Look at your existing bed and decide what's missing in terms of height, foliage colour, flower colour, and bloom time. Make a list of your needs and come visit us at Phoenix. If you bring a picture of your garden bed renovation we can help you with some advice for the perfect plants to get this area of your garden spruced up and gorgeous for the upcoming year.

5. For your transplanted or newly planted plants, use a transplant fertilizer to get your plants established even faster.

Have fun with your fall garden renovation and new plantings!

*Submitted by Mary Openshaw, President
From Phoenix Perennials*

Your Favourite Things Show Us

Our Website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter sites are all looking good with many pictures of plants and gardens and interesting tid-bits of information for you. Please take a minute to go and look at what is on our WRDGC sites and see what we have been doing. If you need help figuring out how to sign up to look at Facebook, Instagram or Twitter, we are happy to help you. The Website is really filling out with our pictures. If you need help navigating the Website, we are here for you. Most of the pictures can be found in the Gallery section of the website, but we also put pictures from garden tours and Parlour Shows in the Events section.

Up to now, the Social Media Working Group have provided all the material for these posts, but we would love to have pictures and ideas from WRDGC members. As you are walking round your garden, take a picture of your favourite plants or views. When you are out walking or visiting in the area, take a picture of gardens and plants you find interesting. For sure your fellow WRDGC members will enjoy seeing them too. If you need help with how to send the picture to us, just let us know. Pictures taken with cell phones are best if taken landscape (i.e. the phone is held side-ways). Try to avoid having your shadow on the plants and pay attention to the background or other plants around.

Add comments to your submission such as where you saw the plant or garden, or why you found it interesting, or some interesting information about it. Other members will enjoy it and learn something new.

We look forward to seeing your pictures,
*Your Social Media Working Group,
Bev, Margrit, Mary, Marilyn, Melanie, John*

Vancouver Master Gardeners

Basic Training Program 2021

As the MG program is by zoom this year it will be more accessible for our group living outside Vancouver as traveling to Van Dusen every week was a deterrent. I would recommend the program to anyone that has the time and interest in learning more about growing plants and horticulture. There is a significant amount of reading but it is not terribly difficult.

Melanie Rantucci (took this course last year).

The Vancouver Master Gardeners Basic Training Program for 2021 is now open for applications. This program is for **all gardeners**, from backyard and community gardeners, to garden designers and landscapers. It is science-based, drawing on resources and instructors from botanical gardens, government ministries, post-secondary institutions, and certified professional practice.

You will:

- be joining a group of like-minded, passionate gardeners with an array of backgrounds and horticultural interests
- come away with new horticultural knowledge and skills that will improve your personal gardening practices and help you advise the general public
- learn about relevant and credible resources that effectively guide your practice as well as help you diagnose and solve gardening problems
- gain the tools, knowledge and support you need to face the unique challenges we are facing today in regard to climate change, sustainability, soil

regeneration, smaller or no yards, food security and evolving ecologically sensitive ways to deal with pests and diseases.

Basic Training Program 2021

January - March 2021

Cost: \$700 includes all resource material

In light of COVID-19 restrictions, lectures will be held online by Zoom on Monday evenings and some Thursday evenings. Where distancing is possible, workshops will be held on Tuesdays. Alternative (e.g. weekend) workshop times will be available for students who cannot participate on Tuesdays. This program always fills-up quickly so you are encouraged to submit your application as soon as possible. To qualify for the program, applicants attend an Information Session to learn more about the course and about the Master Gardeners.

For more information go to

<http://www.mgabc.org/content/103-mg-training>

If you have any questions, please contact Susan at:

basic_training@vancouvermastergardeners.org.

Submitted by Mary Openshaw, President

Marketplace

Advertisements

Club Members can place an ad in our newsletter or send an email ad between newsletters to our members for only \$5. Non members can also place ads or email ads for \$10. Non members must be vouched for by a club member. This space will let members know you have something to sell that may interest them. If the item is free, then there is no ad fee. Any sales are private between the seller and the buyer since our constitution does not allow sales for private profit at our meetings. All ad fees go to the club.

John Davidson, Newsletter

Free Hydrangea

I have a healthy hydrangea root looking for a new home. This is a Japanese climbing

hydrangea, moonlight, beautiful white flowers. Free, please call 604-538-2549.
Thank You

Joyce O'Brien, Plants Plus

Looking For Adventure?

We Are Looking For You



We have vacant Executive positions for next year – Vice President, Treasurer and Programs. If you are interested in joining the Executive of the WRD Garden Club, please call Patti at 778 574-1188.

Patti Wolczuk, Past President

Juicy Bits

Who Are We?



Words of Wisdom

**Sometimes you just have to
pick yourself up and carry on**



Submitted by Mary Openshaw, President

Zoom Etiquette Tips

1. **Joining:** You can join by clicking on the link or entering the meeting ID manually in your Zoom desktop app.
2. **Meeting ID:** Only necessary if you are joining by manually entering the meeting ID into the Zoom app,
3. **Set up your device:** When signing in you may be prompted to choose and test your video and audio
4. **Signing into meeting:** Please make sure you sign in with your first and last names so we can let you in from the waiting room.
5. **Waiting Room:** All participants will be admitted at the start of the meeting. Until then, everyone will be in an electronic "waiting room."

6. **Your audio:** All participants will be muted automatically upon joining the meeting. Only the presenters will have audio on. This prevents feedback/echo. Everyone can unmute at the beginning and at the end to say goodbye if they wish.
7. **Your video:** We invite participants to keep their video on, but you can turn video on and off as you wish.
8. **Speaker View vs. Gallery View:** In the top right corner, you can see the option to switch between Speaker View and Gallery View. Speaker View is recommended during the presentation part of the meeting (so that the speaker's video fills most of your screen)
9. **Help/Chat:** You can use the zoom Chat tool at the bottom of your screen to communicate with the host(s) during the presentation. Type your question/comment into the pop-up box and hit Return to send.

Before the meeting starts or at the end of the presentation, you can comment/ask a question by holding down the space bar, which will temporarily unmute your mic, but please don't use this feature during the presentation unless invited to do so by the speaker.

Next Meeting October 13th, at 2pm

This will be a Zoom meeting. Sign in information to be sent to all members prior to the meeting.

